

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

Department of Highways District 9

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Project awarded to relocate Straight Fork Road in Lewis County

Contract totals \$1.45 million

FLEMINGSBURG, Ky. – Contractors will rebuild a section of Straight Fork Road next year as part of a \$1.45 million state-sponsored project to bypass a slide-stricken area of the Lewis County roadway.

A joint effort of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and Lewis County Fiscal Court, the project includes relocating 1.1 miles of Straight Fork Road (CR 1127) south of its existing route to tie in with KY 59 at a new intersection.

"I am proud to have been part of the team that brought this project to realization," said U.S. Rep. Thomas Massie, who was county judge-executive during the construction planning. "The relocated road will provide a safer and more reliable means of travel for residents in the community for decades to come."

The condition of Straight Fork Road, especially in the slide area near the KY 59 intersection, has been a priority for a number of years, said State Sen. Robin Webb, of Grayson.

"We sought and found the funding to essentially replace a section of roadway that has faced constant slips and slides, to ensure the safety and wellbeing of Straight Fork residents, and I'm excited to see it becoming a reality," Webb said.

"Whether on state or county roads, Kentuckians should be assured of reliable and safe transportation," said State Rep. Jill York, of Grayson. "By building this new road, we're providing both those needs for the benefit of all motorists."

Last year, Lewis County Fiscal Court received state emergency road aid funding for temporary repairs as local officials worked with the Transportation Cabinet on a more permanent fix. Then, this year, plans were drawn up to bypass the damaged section of roadway, and Lewis County sought bids for construction. In November, the county awarded a low-bid contract to BRC Group of London for the work.

"This project has been a long time coming for the people who use this road daily to travel to school, to the doctor's office, to work or to reach friends and loved ones," said Lewis County Judge-Executive Todd Ruckel. "It will be a great day when, once construction is finished, they can do it on a newer and safer roadway."

Contractors started preliminary construction this month, with the majority of the work to take place through next year. Work will include not only the 1.1 mile section of new highway but also construction on KY 59 to enhance the safety of the intersection. Completion is estimated for November 2013.

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